GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4466
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2002
COP LEAVES WINTER ATHLETE IN THE COLD
BASUDEB ACHARIA;HANNAN MOLLAH;SUBODH ROY

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Cop leaves winter athlete in the cold` appearing in the `Hindustan Times` dated August 8, 2002:

(b) if so,the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKIRISHNAN)

(a) Yes, Sir. The news-item captioned `Cop leaves winter athlete in the cold` appeared in the `Hindustan Times` on31st August, 2002 and not on 8th August, 2002.

(b) & (c): The Indian Olympic Association, an apex body of National Sports Federations has informed that they hadreceived an amount of USD12,000/- from the IOC Solidarity Funds for the training and preparation of Shri ShivaKeshavan for the Winter Olympic Games held at Salt Lake City.This amount was paid to the Indian Amateur Luge Association (IALA) for onward transmission to Shri Shiva Keshavan for the training of Shri Keshavan.However, this amount was not paid to the athlete by IALA.On receipt of a request from Shri Keshavan, IOA paid Rs.1,61,594.35 to him on 7th January, 2002 on account of his training and preparation for Winter Olympic Games. IOA has also informed that they have taken up the matter with IALA.IOA has further indicated that they have adopted a policy of transmitting such funds in future directly to sportspersons and not through the Federations.